

<u>Department of Hispanic</u> <u>Languages and Literature</u>

### **SPRING 23 NEWSLETTER**

### GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS AND ACHEIVEMENTS



# Six students present at the NeMLA conference at Niagara Falls, NY

Jesús Jiménez Valdés, María Medín-Doce, Valentina Pucci, Beatriz Solla Vilas, Jeannette Rivera and Lexi Smith traveled to the 54th Annual Northeast Modern Language Association Convention hosted by the University at Buffalo in Niagara Falls, NY in March 2023.



Jiménez Valdés served as co-chair of the roundtable "Resilience and Identity: America and the Spanish Empire," where he presented the paper, "Identidad y contacto en la América dieciochesca: la mirada viajera de Ulloa y Jorge Juan." Smith also participated in the roundtable, presenting a paper titled "A Scholarly Model for Community-based Belonging in Tardes Americanas [Mexico, 1778]." Rivera also chaired a roundtable, "Obstructions to Colonial Debts," in which she presented a paper on "Poéticas que obstruyen la visión tropical en el Caribe." **Medín Doce** presented her paper, "Salir de Casa, Volver a Casa: Narrativas del exilio en la obra de María Luisa Elío" in a panel on "Dissenting Voices: Agency and Resilience in Iberian Exiles." **Pucci** delivered a paper on "La rebaba de la memoria afrodescendiente en la novela Elástico de sombra [2019], de Juan Cárdenas" in the panel, "Corporality and the Senses in Hispanophone and Lusophone Literature and Film II." **Solla Vilas** presented on "Transgressing Humanity: Body Dystopias and the More-than-human in Tentacle [La mucama de Omicunlé], by Rita Indiana" in the panel titled "Trans Worldbuilding."





Samuel Espíndola Hernández will present a paper, "Escombro de la mirada: Junkopia como poética del descampado" in a session on "Nuevas poéticas del desierto en la cultura latinoamericana" at the annual conference of the Latin American Studies Association, LASA, in Vancouver, Canada in May 2023. Four HLL graduate students have earned Edward Guiliano '78 Global Fellowship awards during the 2022-2023 academic year:



**Beatriz Solla Vilas** is pursuing a research project titled "Becoming Travesti: Self-narrative and activism in transgender Brazilian literature" and will travel to Rio de Janeiro and Salvador de Bahia to do research in the libraries and archives and the Museu Transgênero de História e Arte (MUTHA).

Jesús Jiménez Valdé's project, "Local archives and imperial texts: Jorge Juan and Antonio de Ulloa's scientific writing in the 18th century," will take him to Lima, Perú, to do research at local archives and establish contact with city universities and local academics.



**Carolina Boutureira** will travel to Galicia, Spain to pursue research in local libraries and archives on the role of Galician nationalist groups and publications in the 1920s and 30s and their divided response to the Civil War and subsequent Franco dictatorship, with Galician language proponents and practitioners on both sides of the conflict.



**Paulo Soares** will use the fellowship funding to continue work on a project titled "Uncovering the White Gauchos: A Postcolonial Examination of Racial Identity in Southern Brazil."

Click <u>here</u> to know more about the Guiliano Fellowships. **Lexi Smith** was awarded fellowship funding from Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) through Vanderbilt University to study at Tulane University's intensive Portuguese inmersion program in São Paulo this summer.



### **ALUMNI NEWS**

Hispanic Languages and Literature alumna N. Michelle Murray '10, PhD, Associate Professor of Spanish at Vanderbilt University, has been named co-editor of the "Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies" one of the most prestigious journals in the field.



## FACULTY NEWS

#### Humanities Institute Faculty Fellowships, 2022-2023

Professor Joseph M. Pierce spent the Fall 2022 semester as a Humanities Institute at Stony Brook (HISB) Fellow pursing work on a book manuscript, "Speculative Relations: Indigenous Worldmaking Americas". The in the Hemispheric book how Indigenous artists create investigates pathways for relating to human and more-thanhuman kin, and how these pathways offer not just alternatives to colonialism, but methods of repair and healing for marginalized subjects.

[Miguel. "3/4 Profile torso portrait of a subject." Portraits of different indigenous people from Gran Chaco, British Library]



Professor Lena Burgos - Lafuente will hold a HISB fellowship during the Fall 2023 semester to pursue work on a project titled, "'What's Left of the Left?': Communist Poetry Networks and Cosmopolitanism in the Caribbean, Spain and New York (1925-1956)."



#### Other Faculty Fellowships, Awards and Activities

Professor Javier Uriarte will take part in an European Union-funded project, "FAILURE: Reversing the Genealogies of Unsuccess, 16th-19th Centuries," during Summer 2023. He will carry out his for the research project at the Universidade Federal Fluminense, in Niterói, Brazil.





As she concluded her term as HLL Graduate Director in Spring 2022, Professor Aurélie Vialette received the Dean's Award for Excellence in Service by a Graduate Program Director. The award recognizes outstanding service to education and Professor graduate Vialette was cited for her provision of timely and excellent advice to graduate students about all matters academic and professional, as well as for her generosity of time and energy in working with graduate students.

Professor Joseph M. Pierce co-curated (with SJ Norman) an installation at Performance Space New York that exhibited from January 14 to February 4, 2023, as part of their collaborative project, Knowledge of Wounds. The installation centered on the work of 10 queer Indigenous poets, channeled through a sonic and visual score as an immersive space dedicated to resting in a time of ongoing extractive colonialism.



Knowledge of Wounds 2023. Performance Space NY. Photo Credit: Heather Cromartie

#### Keynote Lecture: Paul Firbas at the Strait of Magellan

Professor Paul Firbas delivered a keynote lecture at the Magellan International Conference 2020-2022: "500 Years of the First Circumnavigation of the Earth" (500 años de la primera circunnavegación de Tierra), in September 2022, at the Universidad de Magallanes in Punta Arenas, Chile. The conference brought together 70 scholars in the sciences, humanities and social sciences.



Professor Firbas presented new research on the centrality of the Magellan route for the circulation of news between Europe and the viceroyalty of Peru during the crisis of 1700-1711. His talk, "La ruta austral y las noticias en el virreinato durante la Guerra de Sucesión," is available on <u>video</u> at the Universidad de Magallanes TV Chanel.

#### Recent and notable HLL publications



PhD student **Samuel Espíndola Hernández** published a book of poetry in Chile, "Decimos una carta entre las piedras" (Editorial Pez Espiral, 2023), together with Emilia Pequeño y Francisco Cardemil.

PhD student **Lexi Smith's** article, "Who Belongs in Eighteenth-Century Mexico? A Fictional Model for Scholarly Communities and Viceregal Vassalage in Tardes Americanas," was published Vol. 46, No. 1 (Spring 2023) of the journal "Dieciocho."

Professor Víctor Roncero-López's most recent book is an edition of noted Spanish 17th century writer Pedro Calderón de la Barca's play, "El postrer duelo de España", published by Iberoamericana Vervuert. Based on an actual historical event, the last legally sanctioned duel in Spanish history, the play introduces a romantic triangle into its treatment of the role of honor in Golden Age society.





Professor **Javier Uriarte's**book, "Latin American Literature in Transition, 1870-1930," co-edited with Fernando DeGiovani, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2022.

#### Highlights from this Year's Events and Invited Speakers

# 8th Annual Spanish ACE conference: "Let's talk about teaching challenges in the new era"

A collaboration between Stony Brook and local Long Island high schools, HLL's Spanish ACE program offers college credit for high school students. The 8th annual conference, held on November 8, 2022 under the direction of Dr. Lilia Ruiz-Debbe, the HLL ACE program director, and lecturer Aura Colón, brought together Stony Brook faculty with teachers, several of them SBU alumni, from Comsewogue, Half Hollow Hills, Longwood, Miller Place, Mount Sinai, North Shore, Port Jefferson, Riverhead, Mount Sinai and Rocky Point High Schools.



María José Bruna Bragado from the University of Salamanca, Spain presented a talk on "Género y disenso queer/neobarroco en Uruguay: la rareza de Marosa di Giorgio" on March 29, 2023, after which she also spoke with Professor Uriarte's advanced undergraduate/MA seminar on "Uruguayos raros." Stony Brook University The Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature & the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center present a public talk by MARÍA JOSÉ

BRUÑA BRAGADO (UNIVERSITY OF SALAMANCA)

Género y disenso queer/neobarroco en Uruguay: la rareza de Marosa di Giorgio

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1 PM HUMANITIES 2036 LUNCH WILL BE SERVED



In conjunction with her courses on disability studies during the Spring 2023 semester, Professor **Aurélie Vialette**organized a series of lectures by a diverse range of specialists in the field.

- Eric Lamberg, professor of of Physical Therapy and associate dean of the School of Health Professions at Stony Brook, and also coach of US amputee soccer team, spoke on the topic of sports and disability on February 16.
- On February 23, **Erika Rodríguez**, associate director in residence at the Center for Race, Indigeneity, Disability, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and an ACLS Emerging Voices Fellow at the University of Minnesota, gave a talk focused on gender and disability.
- Marta Ortiz, who works in the office of EU Project Management en Fundación INTRAS in Spain, discussed European programs for Disability and Inclusion on March 7.
- On March 21, Professor **Carrie Shandra** from the College of Arts and Sciences Department of Sociology gave a talk on "Disability and Inequality: Work, Life and Transition."
- Blanca Rodríguez-Velasco, Family Court magistrate in Valladolid, Spain, rounded out the semester with a lecture on April 20 that was part of the Humanities Institute's Pressing Matters series, intended to address issues of special urgency and visibility in the current moment. Her talk focused on the Spanish judicial system and its treatment of people with a cognitive disability, in particular, guardianship.





In April, noted writer, cultural producer and specialist in contemporary Cuban music, Rosa Marquetti, gave a talk exploring the history and circulation of Cuban popular music in Latin American and Spanish cinema in Professor **Katy Vernon's** graduate seminar. Marquetti is the author of "Chano Pozo: A Life" (1915-1948) and "Celia in Cuba" (1925-1960) and is the creator and editor of the blog, "Desmemoriados: Histories of Cuban music."





The Department joined this year's celebration of Galician Literature Day with a talk on Galician cultural networks in NYC, with the participation of Marcos de Lafuente and some of the musicians from Casa de España (Queens).

## IN MEMORIAM



In late February 2023, we lost a cherished member of our Department, Birgit (Biggie) Ubert. Biggie began at Stony Brook in 1997, working for the Korean Studies program, initially in the Department of Comparative Literature and later in Asian and Asian American Studies. She joined HLL as a secretary in 2010 and worked with us, with a brief stint in the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's office, until her passing. Faculty, staff and students will miss her kindness and constant good humor dearly.

### We appreciate your support

We are grateful for the generous giving of so many of our alumni and friends! We depend on this support to build and improve our research and teaching opportunities through scholarships, graduate fellowships, and other experiential opportunities for our students. If you are interested in learning more about how you can <u>support</u> our students and Departmental initiatives, please feel free to contact <u>Amanda Sabanos</u>, AVP for Development, at (631) 316-0371.



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